DOCUMENT RESUME

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ABSTRACT

A random 5% sample of those 6,341 day college students who were enrolled in the fall of 1972-73 but not in the spring of 1972-73 were telephoned to gather followup information. Of the 316 students in the sample, 91 were contacted and provided the following information: (1) most were not currently enrolled in college anywhere; those who were attended a California state college or university; (2) 17% discontinued their studies for reason of completing their program, 29% for financial and employment reasons; (3) 46% enrolled for purposes of a college degree; (4) only 30% reported that they were in a transfer program; only 6 out of the 91 had transferred; (5) half worked from 11 to 40 hours weekly while attending college; (6) almost a third were not working; only 11% were working full or part-time in a field related to their college major; (7) 81% reported that college had not helped them get a job or a promotion; and (8) most intend to resume college in the future, but of those who do, only 41% plan on returning to Golden West or Orange Coast colleges. (Author/KM)

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FOLLOW-UP INTERVIEWS WITH FORMER STUDENTS

FALL, 1972-73 TO SPRING, 1972-73

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH
JUNE, 1973

JC 730 141

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SUMMARY

A random 5% sample of those 6,341 day college students who were enrolled in the Fall of 1972-73 but not in the Spring of 1972-73 were telephoned to gather follow-up information. Of the 316 students in the sample, 91 were contacted and provided the following information:

1. Most were not currently enrolled in college anywhere. Those that were, were attending a California State College or University.

2. Seventeen percent discontinued their studies at GWC or OCC for reason of completing their program as compared with twice that proportion of students who did not return to college in the Fall, 1972-73 semester; 29 percent for financial and employment reasons.

3. Forty-six percent of the non-continuers enrolled for purposes of a college degree.

4. Only 30%, as compared with 56.3% of the previous semester's non-continuers, reported that they were in a transfer program. Only 6 out of the 91 in the sample had transferred.

5. Half of the non-continuers worked from 11 to 40 hours weekly while attending college.

6. Almost a third were not working; only 11% were working full or part-time in a field related to their college major.

7. Eighty-one percent reported that college had not helped them get a job or a promotion.

8. Most intend to resume college in the future, but of those who do, and who are not currently enrolled, only 41% plan on returning to GWC or OCC.

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This report describes results of gathering information from former Coast Community College District students through the use of telephone interviews. Former students to be interviewed consisted of a random 5% sample of all students who were enrolled as of the fourth week of the Fall 1972-73 semester but who were not enrolled as of the fourth week of the Spring 1972-73 semester. Students to be interviewed included only those who were full-time students for at least one semester while attending either Orange Coast College or Golden West College. Part-time students, that is those enrolled in less than 12 units, who had never enrolled in 12 or more units at either of the colleges were not included. Those who once were full-time students but who subsequently enrolled in a part-time basis were included.

Data processing procedures and interviewing techniques are described in a report entitled "Former Student Interview Procedures" which is available from the Office of Institutional Research of the Coast Community College District.

Student Characteristics

Table I shows descriptive statistics for all qualifying students enrolled in the fourth week of the Fall 1972-73 semester for the District (page 1), for Golden West College (page 2), and for Orange Coast College (page 3). Table I also shows descriptive statistics for the same students who were enrolled in the Fall 1972-73 semester in terms of whether or not they continued attending college in the following Spring semester. For the District, 16,275 students were enrolled as of the fourth week of the Fall semester. In the following Spring, 6,341 or 39.0% of that group were again enrolled.

Sampling Non-Continuing Students

Table I also shows the nature of the 5% random sample taken for all non-continuing students. For the District, 6,341 students from the initial enrollment of 16,275 in the Fall semester 1972-73 were not enrolled as of the fourth week of the following Spring semester. A sample of students was picked at random from this group of non-continuers. The breakdown of the sample is shown in Table I in terms of age, sex, enrollment plans, and high school graduate status. Except for a slight over-representation of females over males, the sample is fairly representative in terms of numbers of non-continuers in each of the four categories.

The total sample consisted of 316 former students, 121 of whom had been enrolled at Golden West and 195 at Orange Coast. Each was telephoned from one to three times in an effort to make contact. Of the 316 students in the sample, 91 telephone contacts were actually made, a contact rate of 28.8%. Forty-three contacts were made for Golden West College and 48 for

Orange Coast College. Failure to make telephone contact was the result of (a) incorrect telephone numbers, (b) telephone numbers no longer in service, and (c) students no longer available at that number and for whom new numbers were unknown.

Interview Results

Table II shows a tabulation of responses received from those students who were contacted. In general, what is true of the response tabulations for the District is also true for each of the two colleges. Seventy-nine percent of the former students were not currently enrolled in college when they were contacted by telephone. Those that were, were enrolled at a California State University or College. A few indicated that they were enrolled at either Orange Coast College or Golden West College which means that they either transferred from one college to the other or they were enrolled in a special activity such as the MDTA program and thus did not get included in the data for the fourth week enrollment figures for the Fall of 1972-73. There were the same amount of full-timers as part-timers.

Reasons given for discontinuing college included that students had accomplished their goals or had completed their programs. About 17% indicated that this was the case as compared with 33% of the group of non-continuers contacted during the previous Fall semester. More frequently, however, students reported college to interfere with their work or that they had other financial reasons to leave.

When asked for their reason for enrolling in college to begin with, 46.2% gave answers suggesting a desire for a college degree. Enjoyment of learning and better job preparation were given by 24.2% and 20.9%

respectively. Very few named a specific short-term goal they were trying to accomplish while attending college. Thirty percent of the students for the District indicated that they saw themselves as transfer students. Most students had not transferred to another college and those who had were enrolled at a California State University or College.

Most students worked while attending Orange Coast or Golden West Colleges. Only 35.2% indicated that they did not work at all. Those who worked typically did so between 11 and 30 hours per week, although some indicated work weeks of more than 40 hours.

About 34% of the students contacted reported that they were not working at all now that they had left college. One-sixth of those working, were working in an area related to their college major.

When asked if college helped the former student to get a job or a promotion at the time we called, 81.3% indicated that this was not the case. This was reported differently by the previous semester's group: 59.4% indicated that college had not helped them get a job or promotion.

Most respondents declined to estimate their current annual family income for us. When they did, they typically reported incomes more than $6,000.

When asked if the former student intended to resume his college education in the future, a large portion indicated that it was currently attending, and another substantial proportion indicated that it intended to return in the following semester.

When concluding the telephone interview, respondents were asked if they would be willing to correspond by mail with the District once or

twice per year thereafter. Many agreed to do this and promised to return short questionnaires mailed to them for the purpose of longitudinal follow-up of former students. As described in the paper "Former Student Interview Procedures," this will provide an opportunity for long-term analysis of the effect that the Coast colleges' program may have on its students.

Table III shows those college major areas that were named by students when asked what their major field was. Table IV shows a listing of those things mentioned by students when asked to name their most useful college experience. A large number of students could not answer. Those who did most often mentioned a specific class rather than a broad program, activity, or specific student goal.

When asked to name their least useful college experience, a greater number of former students could provide no answer than was true for the question asking for the most useful experience. Typically, however, those things that are mentioned point to class-related activities.

In Table VI the responses to the question "How Can We Make Our College Program Better?" are shown. Once again most former students could not suggest anything. Those things that were named again tended to point to classroom activities.

COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Day College

	Fall, 1972-73 4th Week Enrollment		Sring, 1972-73				
			Continuing		Non-Continuing		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	5% Sample
AGE							
Less than 21	9,067	55.7	6,070	66.9	2,997	33.1	153
Equal or greater than 21	7,208	44.3	3,864	53.6	3,344	46.4	163
SEX							
Male	8,804	54.1	5,461	62.0	3,343	38.0	157
Female	7,471	45.9	4,473	59.9	2,998	40.1	159
ENROLLMENT PLANS							
Associate in Arts	4,351	26.7	2,720	62.5	1,631	37.5	90
Bachelor's Degree	3,746	23.0	2,392	63.9	1,354	36.1	67
A.A. and B.A.	4,232	26.0	2,788	65.9	1,444	34.1	68
Data Unavailable	3,946	24.3	2,034	51.5	1,912	48.5	91
HIGH SCHOOL GRAUDATE							
Yes	12,943	79.6	8,044	62.1	4,899	37.9	249
No	2,220	13.6	1,231	55.5	989	44.5	46
Data Unavailable	1,112	6.8	659	59.3	453	40.7	21
TOTAL STUDENTS	16,275	100.0	9,934	61.0	6,341	39.0	316

Table I

Descriptive Statistics
(page 1)

GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE

Day College

	Fall, 1972-73 4th Week Enrollment		Spring, 1972-73				
			Continuing		Non-Continuing		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	5% Sample
AGE							
Less than 21	3,312	55.3	2,178	65.8	1,134	34.2	56
Equal or greater than 21	2,674	44.7	1,372	51.3	1,302	48.7	65
SEX							
Male	3,047	50.9	1,842	60.5	1,205	39.5	59
Female	2,939	49.1	1,708	58.1	1,231	41.9	62
ENROLLMENT PLANS							
Associate in Arts	1,589	26.6	967	60.9	622	39.1	30
Bachelor's Degree	1,463	24.4	942	64.4	521	35.6	30
A.A. and B.A.	1,400	23.4	897	64.1	503	35.9	24
Data Unavailable	1,534	25.6	744	48.5	790	51.5	37
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE							
Yes	4,550	76.0	2,710	59.6	1,840	40.4	92
No	917	15.3	512	55.8	405	44.2	19
Data Unavailable	519	8.7	328	63.2	191	36.8	10
TOTAL STUDENTS	5,986	100.0	3,550	59.3	2,436	40.7	121

Table I

Descriptive Statistics
(page 2)

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE

Day College

	Fall, 1972-73 4th Week Enrollment		Spring, 1972-73				
			Continuing		Non-Continuing		
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	5% Sample
AGE							
Less than 21	5,755	55.9	3,892	67.6	1,863	32.4	97
Equal or greater than 21	4,534	44.1	2,492	55.0	2,042	45.0	98
SEX							
Male	5,757	56.0	3,619	62.9	2,138	37.1	98
Female	4,532	44.0	2,765	61.0	1,767	39.0	97
ENROLLMENT PLANS							
Associate in Arts	2,762	26.8	1,753	63.5	1,009	36.5	60
Bachelor's Degree	2,283	22.2	1,450	63.5	833	36.5	37
A.A. and B.A.	2,832	27.5	1,891	66.8	941	33.2	44
Data Unavailable	2,412	23.5	1,290	53.5	1,122	46.5	54
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE							
Yes	8,393	81.6	5,334	63.6	3,059	36.4	157
No	1,303	12.7	719	55.2	584	44.8	27
Data Unavailable	593	5.7	331	55.8	262	44.2	11
TOTAL STUDENTS	10,289	100.0	6,384	62.0	3,905	38.0	195

Table I

Descriptive Statistics
(page 3)

	Coast District		Golden West		Orange Coast	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1. ARE YOU PRESENTLY ENROLLED IN COLLEGE ANYWHERE?						
No	72	79.1	34	79.1	38	79.2
California State University or College	6	6.6	2	4.7	4	8.3
University of California	0	-	0	-	0	-
Another 2-year College	3	3.3	1	2.3	2	4.2
Private 4-year College	0	-	0	-	0	-
Orange Coast College	4	4.4	2	4.7	2	4.2
Golden West College	2	2.2	2	4.7	0	-
Other College	4	4.4	2	4.7	2	4.2
Total	91	100.0	43	100.2	48	100.1
2. HOW MANY UNITS ARE YOU ENROLLED IN?						
Semester Units:						
None	75	82.4	35	81.4	40	83.3
0.5 - 6.0	3	3.3	1	2.3	2	4.2
6.5 - 11.5	5	5.5	2	4.7	3	6.3
12.0 - 18.0	8	8.8	5	11.6	3	6.3
Quarter Units:						
12.0 - 18.0	0	-	0	-	0	-
18.5 or more	0	-	0	-	0	-
No response	0	-	0	-	0	-
Total	91	100.0	43	100.0	48	100.1
3. WHY DID YOU DISCONTINUE COLLEGE AT...:						
Interfered with work/financial reasons	27	29.7	14	32.6	13	27.1
Accomplished my goal/completed my program	16	17.6	8	18.6	8	16.7
Desired classes unavailable	9	9.9	2	4.7	7	14.6
Lack of interest in studies	8	8.8	5	11.6	3	6.3
Classes too difficult	1	1.1	1	2.3	0	-
Poor Instructor	1	1.1	1	2.3	0	-
Other academic reason	4	4.4	2	4.7	2	4.2
Entered Armed Forces	0	-	0	-	0	-
Health	5	5.5	4	9.3	1	2.1
Moved from area	1	1.1	1	2.3	0	-
Personal	8	8.8	2	4.7	6	12.5
Other	11	12.1	3	7.0	8	16.7
No response	0	-	0	-	0	-
Total	91	100.1	43	100.1	48	100.2

Table II

Interview Response Tabulations
(page 1)

	Coast District		Golden West		Orange Coast	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
4. WHY DID YOU ENROLL IN COLLEGE?						
Desire for college degree	42	46.2	20	46.5	22	45.8
Enjoy learning	22	24.2	12	27.9	10	20.8
Better job preparation	19	20.9	6	14.0	13	27.1
To accomplish a specific, short-term goal	4	4.4	3	7.0	1	2.1
Other	2	2.2	1	2.3	1	2.1
No response	2	2.2	1	2.3	1	2.1
Total	91	100.1	43	100.0	48	100.0
5. WHAT KIND OF PROGRAM WERE YOU ENROLLED IN?						
Transfer	28	30.8	12	27.9	16	33.3
Non-Transfer	62	68.1	31	72.1	31	64.6
Undecided	1	1.1	0	-	1	2.1
Total	91	100.0	43	100.0	48	100.0
6. DID YOU TRANSFER TO ANOTHER COLLEGE?						
No	83	91.2	40	93.0	43	89.6
California State University or College	6	6.6	2	4.7	4	8.3
University of California	0	-	0	-	0	-
Another 2-year College	1	1.1	1	2.3	0	-
Private 4-year College	0	-	0	-	0	-
Orange Coast College	1	1.1	0	-	1	2.1
Golden West College	0	-	0	-	0	-
Other College	0	-	0	-	0	-
Total	91	100.0	43	100.0	48	100.0
7. AT WHAT LEVEL DID YOU TRANSFER?						
Freshman	1	1.1	1	2.3	0	-
Sophomore	3	3.3	1	2.3	2	4.2
Junior	2	2.2	1	2.3	1	2.1
Senior	0	-	0	-	0	-
I did not transfer	85	93.4	40	93.0	45	93.7
Total	91	100.0	43	99.9	48	100.0

Table II

Interview Response Tabulations
(page 2)

	Coast District		Golden West		Orange Coast	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
8. DID YOU WORK WHILE ATTENDING COLLEGE?						
No	32	35.2	16	37.2	16	33.3
1 - 10 hours	4	4.4	1	2.3	3	6.3
11 - 20 hours	12	13.2	7	16.3	5	10.4
21 - 30 hours	17	18.7	7	16.3	10	20.8
31 - 40 hours	21	23.1	9	20.9	12	25.0
More than 40 hours	5	5.5	3	7.0	2	4.2
No response	0	-	0	-	0	-
Total	91	100.1	43	100.0	48	100.0
9. ARE YOU WORKING NOW?						
No	31	34.1	14	32.6	17	35.4
Full-time in major area	6	6.6	2	4.7	4	8.3
Full-time in related area	2	2.2	0	-	2	4.2
Full-time in unrelated area	37	40.6	16	37.2	21	43.8
Part-time in major area	1	1.1	1	2.3	0	-
Part-time in related area	1	1.1	1	2.3	0	-
Part-time in unrelated area	13	14.3	9	20.9	4	8.3
No response	0	-	0	-	0	-
Total	91	100.0	43	100.0	48	100.0
10. HAS COLLEGE HELPED YOU TO GET A JOB OR PROMOTION SO FAR?						
Yes	17	18.7	5	11.6	12	25.0
No	74	81.3	38	88.4	36	75.0
No response	0	-	0	-	0	-
Total	91	100.0	43	100.0	48	100.0
11. WILL YOU ESTIMATE YOUR CURRENT ANNUAL FAMILY INCOME?						
Less than $3,000	1	1.1	1	2.3	0	-
$3,000 to $6,000	4	4.4	2	4.7	2	4.2
$6,000 to $10,000	7	7.7	2	4.7	5	10.4
$10,000 to $15,000	10	11.0	8	18.6	2	4.2
More than $15,000	11	12.1	6	14.0	5	10.4
Decline to state	58	63.7	24	55.8	34	70.8
Total	91	100.0	43	100.1	48	100.0

Table II

Interview Response Tabulations
(page 3)

	Coast District		Golden West		Orange Coast	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
12. DO YOU INTEND TO RESUME YOUR COLLEGE EDUCATION IN THE FUTURE?						
Never	6	6.6	2	4.7	4	8.3
Next semester	30	33.0	14	32.6	16	33.3
Next year	6	6.6	1	2.3	5	10.4
A few years from now	6	6.6	2	4.7	4	8.3
After armed services	0	-	0	-	0	-
Sometime, but don't know when	12	13.2	11	25.6	1	2.1
Undecided	14	15.4	6	14.0	8	16.7
I am attending a college now	17	18.7	7	16.3	10	20.8
Total	91	100.1	43	100.2	48	99.9
13. WHAT COLLEGE WILL YOU PROBABLY ATTEND?						
California State University or College	5	5.5	2	4.7	3	6.3
University of California	1	1.1	1	2.3	0	-
Another 2-year College	8	8.8	1	2.3	7	14.6
Private 4-year College	3	3.3	2	4.7	1	2.1
Other College	2	2.2	1	2.3	1	2.1
Orange Coast College	15	16.5	1	2.3	14	29.2
Golden West College	13	14.3	13	30.2	0	-
Undecided	21	23.1	13	30.2	8	16.7
Never	6	6.6	2	4.7	4	8.3
I am attending a college now	17	18.7	7	16.3	10	20.8
Total	91	100.1	43	100.0	48	100.1
14. WILL YOU BE WILLING TO CORRESPOND WITH US ONCE OR TWICE PER YEAR BY MAIL?						
Yes	68	74.7	35	81.4	33	68.8
No	23	25.3	8	18.6	15	31.2
Total	91	100.0	43	100.0	48	100.0

Table II

Interview Response Tabulations
(page 4)

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE

Junior College:

Aeronautics	1
Airline Stewardess	1
Architecture	1
Art	3
Art History	1
Banking	1
Business	3
Data Processing	1
E.E.G.	1
Electronics Technology	2
English	1
Environmental Science	1
Fashion Design	1
Inhalation Therapy	1
Liberal Arts	2
Micro-Biology	1
Photography	1
Pre-Law	1
Psychology	1
Registered Nursing	2
Secretarial Science	1
Sociology	1
Veterinary Medicine	1
Undeclared	18

Senior College:

None	44
Accounting	1
Art	1
Art History	1
Micro-Biology	1

GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE

Junior College:

Accounting	1
Anthropology	1
Art	2
Biology	2
Business	1
Cosmetology	2
Drafting	1
Education	3
English	1
Health Education	1
LVN Nursing	4
Mechanics	1
Physical Education	1
Psychology	1
Social Sciences	1
Secretarial - Medical	1
Undeclared	19

Senior College:

None	41
Anthropology	1
Business	1

Table III

What Was Your Major Field While In College?

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE		GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE	
Classes in general	4	Classes in general	3
Learning to study	1	Classes in major	1
Media Center	1	One certain class	5
One certain class	12	People	4
One certain instructor	1	Teachers in general	1
People	4		
Registration	1	None	29
Summer school	1		
Teachers in general	1		
Tutoring	1		
Work experience program	1		
None	20		

Table IV

What Was Your Most Useful
College Experience?

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE		GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE	
Classes unrelated to major	3	Classes too large	1
Counseling	2	Classes unrelated to major	1
Lectures	1	Grading	1
One certain class	9	Instructors	3
Red tape	1	One certain class	6
None	32	None	31

Table V

What Was Your Least Useful
College Experience?

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE		GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE	
Don't compare students to one another	1	Combine Evening and Day Classes	1
Have better counseling	1	Have more coordination with transfer state colleges.	1
Have more and better parking	1	Have more established teachers	1
Have more interesting classes	1	Have more industrial classes	1
Have more interesting teachers	1	Have more short vocational classes	1
Have smaller classes	1	Have more student activities	3
Have stricter curriculum	1	Make classes smaller	1
Have tutor system	1	Make dress code stricter	1
Omit classes unrelated to your major	1		
None	39	None	33

Table VI

How Can We Make Our
College Program Better?

UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.
LOS ANGELES

JUL 13 1973

CLEARINGHOUSE FOR
JUNIOR COLLEGE
INFORMATION